

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/IB2004/050912

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G01T1/169

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G01T

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)
EPO-Internal, WPI Data, INSPEC, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>US 2002/159563 A1 (KAIFU NORIYUKI ET AL) 31 October 2002 (2002-10-31) abstract page 1. paragraph 11 - paragraph 15 page 2. paragraph 41 - paragraph 42 page 3. paragraph 51 - page 4, paragraph 65 page 4. paragraph 68 - paragraph 73 page 5. paragraph 84 - paragraph 88 page 5. paragraph 93 page 6. line 95 - line 105 figures</p> <p style="text-align: center;">----- -/--</p>	1,2,4-6

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- * & * document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

29 November 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

06/12/2004

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 463 225 A (KWASNICK ROBERT F ET AL) 31 October 1995 (1995-10-31) column 5, line 13 - line 33 column 6, line 5 - line 6 figures column 3, line 55 - column 4, line 28 -----	1-6
A	EP 0 838 860 A (GEN ELECTRIC) 29 April 1998 (1998-04-29) abstract column 1, line 29 - line 40 column 2, line 15 - line 26 -----	1,3,6

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			US	2004086079 A1	06-05-2004
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